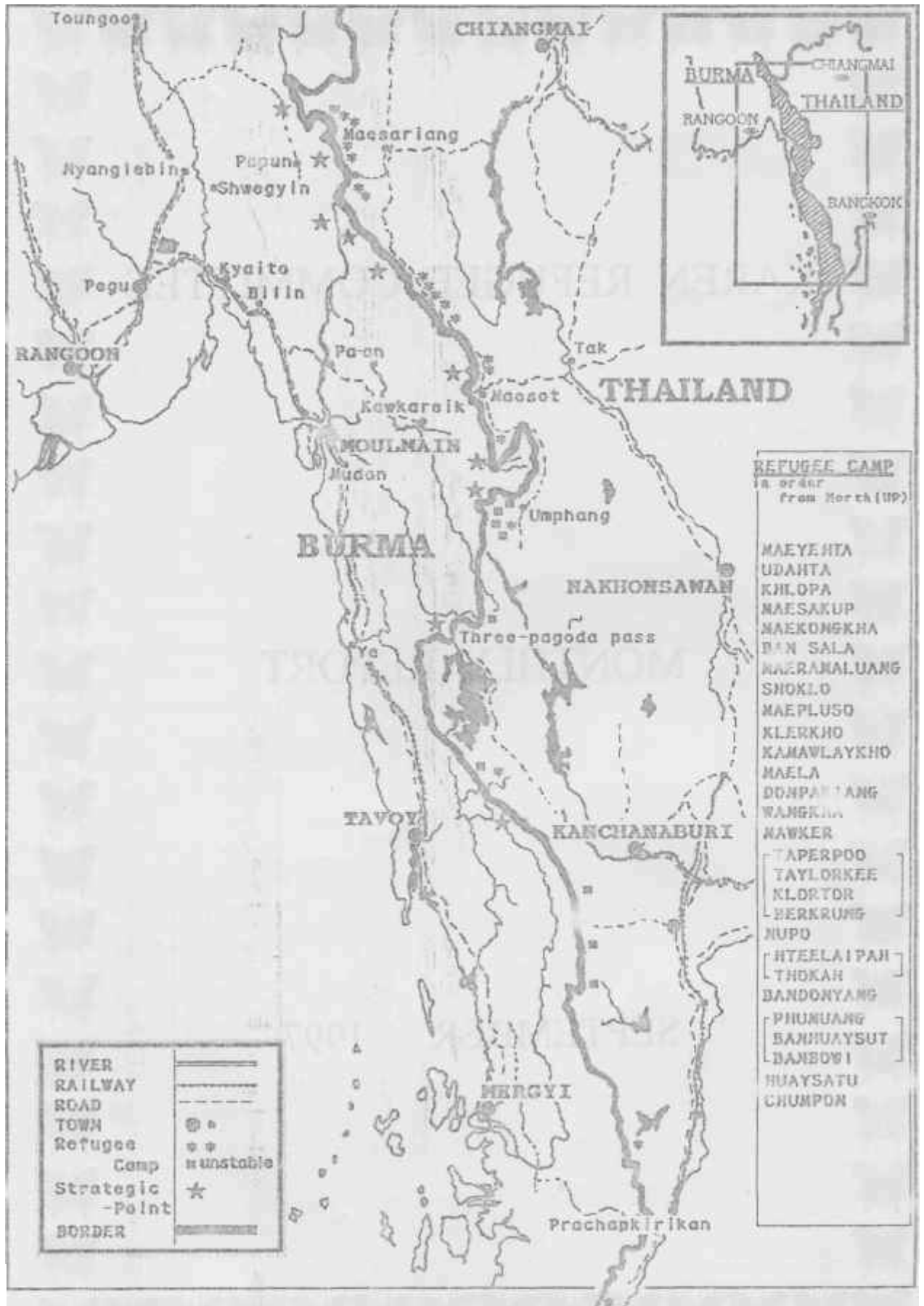




KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

MONTHLY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1997





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The end of September is the time when the rainy season is nearing its end in this part of the region. But this year the weather seems unpredictable with spot showers resulting in inundation in *one* area while in some places there was little rain. In Mae La Camp flooding from heavy rains was reported but the situation was not as bad as last year, where there was destruction to homes and properties.

Now, life in the Refugee camps is going about as usual with little in the form of movements on the part of the camp population. Education pursuits are proceeding smoothly and there being no outstanding problems regarding Health matters. Though from reports reaching here, life for most people inside the Burma Border seems to be getting worse. Reports indicate that there were whole-sale relocation of villages with villagers forced to abandon their homes, their farms and land plots. Altogether Collectives sites are being designated for these relocated people to stay. Such repressive measures don't bode well for the future of these people.

Attached are spot reports of the repressive measures and human rights abuses committed by the SLORC troops inside the Border.

Report received regarding criminal acts and Human Rights, abuses committed by the SLORC troops in the Karen States.

In Dooplaya, Pa-an and Papun Districts.

Name of villages:- Thet Pha Htaw Ler Dweh Maw Keh Khee Plaw Pha Doh. Klay Pho Khee Ta Po Khee. Klay Pho Htar. Meh Ta Lar. Meh Klay. Pha Wah Kloe. Cho Kloe. Pha Wah Khee. Cho Htar. Lo Taw Plar. Law Par. Kar Lee Khee. Law Par Htar. Hngat Pyaw Daw. Aw Tway Htar. Yar Ther Htar. Pa Nweh Poo. Ta Po Poe Htar. Meh Plet. Moh Leh Klar. Meh Plet Khee. Ta Kha Kloe. Kla Chaw. Ta Kha Khee. Ta Nay Kwee. Meh Ka Taw. Ler Taw. Phee Ta Khat. Thay Kho. Meh Ka Taw Khee. Ya Klo. La Aye Loe. Ta Ku Khee. Kaut Sein Done. Kyaw Kay Kho. A Kyu. Altogether (40) villages.

All people from the above mentioned villages are driven out by order from the SLORC light Infantry Battalions 546th/547th/548th/549th. Time allowance for forced relocation being 22/9/97 to 25/10/97.

2. On 30th August 1997, at about 10:00 a.m., SLORC LIB -355 troops, commanded by Nyi Nyi Naing, entered Kalay village in Kyar-Inn Township and burned the houses of villager Aung Moung and Phar Prer Nya (2) houses. All household furnitures and belongings, including (1000) baskets of paddy and (25) baskets of rice were destroyed in the fire. Kyats 100,000 was looted from Aung Moung, (3) Hogs and (2) goats were also killed.

3. On 5/9/97 - SLORC LIB -355, troops under Major Aung Kyaw Hla and Captain Aung Chit Khaing entered Taung Galay village in Doo Pla Ya district. They arrested villager Ba Thaung, tortured and then killed him in Par Nyar Wah forest, east of the village.

4. On 7/9/97 - SLORC troops entered Kyauk Ba Loo village in Kya Inn Seik Kyi township and looted some houses. Looted were:- Naw Heh Moo's house was looted of goods worth Kyats. 6000, Naw Ma Nge's house was looted of goods worth Kyats. 27775 , Naw Mu Tay Thaw's was looted of goods worth Kyats. 1500

5. On 9/8/97 in Aw Kwor village in Kya Inn Seik Kyi township, villagers were watching Video in the evening. At about 8:00 p.m., SLORC LIB (549) entered the village and one Corporal shot into the group watching the video show. (2) persons were killed and one seriously injured.

* Killed - Ma Than Htay - 23 years (6-months pregnant.) Father U Ohn Ngwe.

* Killed - Nyar Leh - 13 years. Father U Pyit.

* Wounded - Maung Saw Oo. 11 -years. Father U Tun Hla.

6. On 12/9/97, SLORC LIB- 709 Loops entered Plo Yar Mu Derr village in Kyauk Kyee Township. They arrested Phoo Saw Naw Day, 72-years.(male), took him with them to the other villages and then killed him.

7. On 9/9/97, SLORC troops entered Sor Moo Bai Day village in Waw Kho Phee village Tract. They arrested (60) years old Naw Deh Deh (female) looted her of Ks. 1000 and 2-1/2 baskets of rice and then killed her. Saw Htu, Saw Phar Lay, Saw Ko Tin and Saw Maung Htway were looted of Kyats 400,000.

Although it can be said that no large scale fighting is going on in the Border Region, repressive measures and Rights abuses by the SLORC troops is going on unabated which can only be profiled as ethnically motivated.

The result is that more and more people will be trying to escape from these repressive measures, resulting in Persons Displaced in ever increasing numbers.

Before closing, we, the Karen Refugee Committee, would like to express our deep appreciation and gratitude to the Thai authorities concerned and the Royal Thai Government for allowing the Karen refugees to take refuge in the border areas of Thailand and for permitting the international NGOs to provide the basic needs of the refugees. We are also much indebted to the various NGOs aid organizations and agencies, the democratic countries and the International Community, including the UNHCR and EU, for providing relief assistance to the refugees or raising concern whenever necessary. We are also thankful to our friends far and near for their valuable advice and for their prayers in time of our need.

May God bless all of you.

I beg to remain.

Yours faithfully,



Robert Htwe.
Chairman

Number of people in the camps

	CAMP	No. of families	Over 12 YRS		5- 12 YRS		Undei 5 YRS		Total
			M	F	M	F	M	F	
MAE SOT AREA	Wang Kha (Huay Ka Lok)	1682	3185	3112	721	717	559	625	8919
	Mae La	4285	8887	7976	3317	2519	1551	1351	25601
	Sho Klo (Mae Song)	1040	2142	2093	953	925	349	352	6814
	Maw Ker	1373	3086	2862	788	780	739	618	8873
	Total	8380	17300	16045	5779	4941	3198	2946	50207
N O R T H	Mae Ra Ma Luang	795	1610	1493	581	512	360	356	4912
	Khun Mae Kong Kha	550	895	1002	398	401	269	302	3267
	Sa La	355	766	654	253	243	103	111	2130
	Mae Sa Kup	415	802	802	293	257	121	176	2451
	Khlo Pa	436	832	814	314	272	194	209	2635
	U Da Hta	562	1261	1076	355	305	246	263	3506
	Mae Ye Hta	302	644	549	261	208	82	80	1824
	Total	3415	6810	6390	2455	2198	1375	1497	20725
S O U T H	Noh Po	1784	3325	2760	102	961	831	818	9716
	Ban Don Yang	317	348	389	271	234	129	117	1481
	Tham Him	1604	1981	2223	865	843	799	829	7540
	Hti Yo Ki	233	-	-	-	-	-	-	1022
	Kho Thay Lu	70	77	85	22	16	36	44	280
	Total	4008							20046
	Grand Total	15803							90978

RICE AND OTHER ITEMS RECEIVED FOR THE MONTH

FROM	ITEMS					
	Rice sacks	Salt kgs	F.Paste tins	Blankets 40/box	Pressed Sawdust bundle	Tomato Sauce 2 doz/box
B B C	7695	16950	3174	20	20300	
COERR	350	-	-	-	-	724

DISTRIBUTION OF RICE AND OTHER ITEMS RECEIVED

CAMP	ITEMS					
	Rice sacks	Salt kgs	F. Paste tins	Blankets 40/box	Pressed Sawdust bundle	Tomato Souce 2doz/box
Wang Ka	1408	3400	565		-	145
Mae La	4107	8600	1610	-	* 12950	368
Sho Klo	1114	2150	438		* 3200	91
Maw Ker	1396	2800	561		* 4150	120
K.R.C/ M.S.F	20	-	-	-	-	-
Noh Po	-	-		20	-	-

* 3 bundles/ family.